

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 12930 161707Z

64

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-02 FAA-00 /034 W

----- 011020

R 161549Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7600

INFO USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS MOSCOW 12930

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, UR

SUBJECT: WHAT HAPPENED TO THE TU-144?

REF: MOSCOW A-134

1. CURRENT CIVIL AVIATION ACHIEVEMENTS AND OBJECTIVES WERE OUTLINED IN INTERVIEWS WITH MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION BUGAYEV AND DEPUTY MINISTER KATRICH PUBLISHED BY THE CENTRAL PRESS AUGUST 14 IN HONOR OF AIRFORCE DAY AUG 15. NOTEWORTHY WAS THE LACK OF MENTION OF A DATE WHEN THE TU-144 WOULD BEGIN REGULAR PASSENGER SERVICE. PREVIOUS INDICATIONS, REPAIR, WERE THAT SERVICE WOULD BEGIN "THIS SUMMER." BUGAYEV (PRAVDA) SAID ONLY THAT THE TU-144 IS IN THE PROCESS OF BEING INTRODUCED (OSVAIVAETSYA) INTO AEROFLOT ROUTES.

2. BUGAYEV MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS REGARDING PLANS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION DURING 1976-80. BY 1980 THE IL-62 AND TU-154 WILL CARRY HALF OF ALL PASSENGER TRAFFIC FOR AEROFLOT. THE YAK-42 WILL BE USED FOR BOTH MAIN AND LOCAL ROUTES, AND THE IL-86, RATED TO CARRY "350 PEOPLE", WILL BE USED ON THE MOST HEAVILY UTILIZED ROUTES. DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1976, NEW AIRPORTS WENT INTO SERVICE IN TASHKENT, ANAPA, AND BREST. "LARGE" AIRPORTS ARE TO BE BUILT AT ROSTOV-ON-DON, KOMSOMOLSK-ON-AMUR, FURNZE, YEREVAN, KHABAROVSK, VLADIVOSTOK, KAZAN, MURMANSK AND "OTHER" CITIES OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS (V BLIZHAYSHIE GODY).

3. COMMENT: FROM ALL APPEARANCES, THE SOVIETS HAVE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 12930 161707Z

ENCOUNTERED PROBLEMS IN BRINGING THE TU-144 INTO REGULAR

PASSENGER SERVICE. ONE OF THE AIRCRAFT NOW SITS PROMINENTLY
IN VIEW ON A RUNWAY AT MOSCOW'S DOMODEDEVO AIRPORT, AN OBVIOUS
SYMBOL OF SOVIET TECHNOLOGICAL PROWESS BUT, AS FOR PRESENT
UTILITY, SOMEWHAT OF A "POTEMKIN VILLAGE." OUR QUEIRIES AS TO
WHEN REGULAR SERVICE WOULD BEGIN PRODUCED A "NOT SURE" RESPONSE
FROM AEROFLOT. HOWEVER, WE WILL RAISE THE QUESTION WITH
THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION IF AN OPPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY
OCCURS.
STOESSEL

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT, PRESS CONFERENCES, SUPPLEMENTAL AIRLINES, AIR ROUTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOSCOW12930
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760314-0609
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760850/aaaabrml.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MOSCOW A-134
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 APR 2004 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <05 JAN 2005 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WHAT HAPPENED TO THE TU-144?
TAGS: EAIR, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006